

Tribal Program Newsletter

To touch the earth is to have harmony with nature (Oglala Sioux)

Meetings and conferences

Nov. 8-10 Tribal Association on Solid Waste and Emergency Response (TASWER) 5th Annual Conference, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

This conference will include sessions on transfer stations, recycling, brownfields, superfund, emergency response and regional roundtables. The conference and meeting are free for tribal solid waste and/or environmental personnel. Call the conference hotline for more information (505) 450-8557 or visit <http://www.taswer.org>

Nov. 11-13 American Indian Sciences and Engineering Society, Anchorage, AK

This conference will be held at the Egan Convention Center. For more information log on to <http://www.aises.org>

Nov. 15-19 HazMat Explo Conference & Exposition, Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Highlights will include strategies for dealing with Hazmat issues from six difference perspectives: environmental, first responder, emergency planning, industrial, radiological and medical. Continuing education credits can be earned. Register online at <http://www.hazmatexplo.org> or call (702) 455-5710.

Nov. 15-18 National/Regional Tribal Caucus, Lawrence, KS

For more information, please contact Elvira Dixon, American Indian Environmental Office (202) 564-0378.

Nov. 16-18 Pit Lakes 2004 Conference, Reno, NV

This conference will provide a forum for the exchange of scientific information on current domestic and international pit lake approaches, including pit lakes from arid and wet regions throughout the world. Inquiries can be directed to Alina Martin of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) at tcs-events@saic.com or (703) 318-4678. There is no

registration fee to attend. To register, visit the following Web site:
<https://www.seeuthere.com/register/m2c640-732396260647>

Nov. 17 Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) Tribal water systems program, Phoenix, AZ

The tribal operator work group meeting is a forum for tribal water and wastewater operators to contribute to the development and planning of the tribal operator certification program. Feedback from professional tribal operators is important in maintaining the quality and effectiveness of the certification program. Recommendations made at this meeting will be noted and presented to the Certification Advisory Work Group. For more information, please call Deborah Patton at (602) 258-4822.

Dec. 5-8 2004 Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) annual meeting, Palm Springs, CA

The theme for this year's SRA Annual Meeting is "Risk Analysis: The Profession and the Future." For more information, please go to:
http://www.sra.org/events_2004_meeting.php.

Dec. 6-10 First National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration, Lake Buena Vista, FL

The conference will enable national and international information exchange on issues involved in landscape-scale ecosystem restoration. Scientists and managers involved in restoration efforts across the country are encouraged to submit abstracts describing their projects. For additional information and to register, please visit:
<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ecosystem/>

2005

Jan. 25-27 Addressing tribal traditional lifeways in EPA's risk assessment policies and procedures, Reno, NV

This meeting will be beneficial to environmental professionals working on tribal issues because risk assessments serve as the scientific basis for many environmental decisions including water, air pesticide, and waste environmental standards and regulation development. For more information, go the Science and American Indians Web site at
<http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm>. The deadline for registration is December 17, 2004.

**June 7-10 7th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management,
Traverse City, MI**

The Grand Traverse Band (GTB) of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians invites participation in this conference. The GTB is actively seeking agenda suggestions on environmental issues of importance in Indian Country and will use selected ideas to shape the conference agenda. You are encouraged to submit your ideas on environmental activities, issues, and opportunities for participation in the event. In addition, GTB will have significant room for interested vendors at the conference. For more information please contact Andy Knott, GTB Environmental Stewardship Director at (231) 271-7363 or aknott@gtbindians.com or Suzanne McSawby, GTB Natural Resource Department Director at (231) 271-7104 or smcsawby@gtbindians.com.

Oct. 2005 13th Region 9 annual Tribal/EPA Conference will be co-hosted with the Picayune Rancheria. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Training

Nov. 7 2004 International Radon Symposium, Newport, RI

The Center for Environmental Research and Technology is offering an expanded version of the Train-the-Speaker Program at this symposium. Registration is limited to 25 students, so early registration is recommended. For more information, please call 1 (800) 513-8332

**Nov. 9-10 Flood management workshop: options and opportunities,
Sacramento, CA**

This two-day, workshop-style event, sponsored by the Water Education Foundation and cosponsored by the California Department of Water Resources and the Reclamation Board will bring together top flood-management planners and stakeholders to share ideas for the strategies and tools needed to improve the system in an era of tight budgets and competing priorities. Detailed information is available at: http://www.science.calwater.ca.gov/psp/psp_package.shtml or call the helpline at (877) 408-9310.

Dec. 6-10 Mitigation for tribal officials, Emmitsburg, MD

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a one week course on the "Mitigation for Tribal Officials". This course provides an overview of FEMA's mitigation programs, including hazard mitigation

planning, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and the mitigation grant programs (Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Flood Mitigation Assistance, and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program). Candidates for this course should have some familiarity with FEMA in terms of our overall programs. The course is limited to tribal members representing tribes. The application deadline must be 30-days prior to training date.

Course applicants should fill out a FEMA Form 75-5 (FEMA General Admissions Application) with the course code and title. Please email Dawn Warehime at dawn.warehime@dhs.gov or call her at (301) 447-1309 for forms and information. Or, visit the FEMA Web site at: <http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/enrollpp.asp>

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at North Arizona University (ITEP/NAU)

- Nov. 16-19 Educational Outreach for Air Quality Professionals, Albuquerque, NM
- Dec. 6-10 Management of Tribal Programs and Grants, Atlanta, GA
- Jan. 25-27 Air Toxics, Research Triangle Park, NC

The above courses are offered by the American Indian Air Quality Training Program in cooperation with NAU and U.S. EPA to fulfill the mandate of the 1990 Clean Air Act to offer Native American tribes full partnership in the management of air quality on tribal lands. For more information on the above courses, call Lydia Scheer (928) 523-8871 or go to Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu.

Nov. 29-Dec. 3 Environmental radiation monitoring training for tribes, Las Vegas, NV

This course will assist tribes that are dealing with impact from activities that may result in radiation emissions. These may be impacts from mining, milling, nuclear power production, nuclear waste storage, nuclear research, or any other impact that includes the potential of radiation emissions. Funding from U.S. EPA will provide full participant support for lodging and travel. Also, U.S. EPA will compensate tribal instructors that help develop or teach the course. If interested, please contact Mansel A. Nelson, (928) 523-1275 or email

Bill Helmich Associates training seminars

A brochure for training seminars for November 2004 is available from Bill Helmich Associates, P. O. Box 789, Sandia Park, NM 87047 (505) 281-9884 or visit: <http://www.billhelmichassociates.com>

National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

The most up-to-date list of enforcement/compliance monitoring courses offered by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance is available online. NETI is also advertising some EPA regional office-sponsored courses from Regions 4, 5 and 6. November classes of some of the most popular enforcement courses such as Basic Inspector, Advanced Inspector, and Advanced Negotiations Skills training are now available. A catalog and schedule list of videos and CD-ROM courses can be mailed to you free of charge by calling (202) 564-2430 or by visiting <http://www.netionline.com/> and registering as a student at EPA's "virtual university," NETI Online. Start class in your own office!

Indian Country Environmental Hazard Assessment Project

This free course is presented by volunteers and is available upon request. The volunteers will come to your office and participants will learn methods for identifying and assessing environmental health hazards in the home, workplace, and community. For more information, contact Harvard School of Public Health, Attn: Barbara Blanchard, 677 Huntington Ave., CCPE-Dept A, Boston MA 02115-6096 (617) 384-8687 or email: bblancha@hsph.harvard.edu

Emergency response and drought contingency planning

The California Rural Water Association is offering classes on an Emergency Response Plan (ERP). Learn the key points that should be included in your ERP and use this hands-on class to create or update your ERP. Get a free manual with templates for forms that all water systems need in case of an emergency situation. Find out how to prepare your system now for potential future drought conditions. If you have a water system serving a population of 3,300 or more (1,000 connections or more), your system is required to update your ERP and send a certification to EPA by December 31, 2004. However, ERPs are highly recommended for all water systems. These one-day classes are offered at different locations and are free of charge. For more information, please call (800) 833-0322 or (916) 553-4900 or go to <http://www.calruralwater.org> or <http://www.cadroughtprep.net>

Grants and loans

FY 2005 Proposal guidelines for Brownfields assessment

EPA is now accepting proposals for Brownfields assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants. Applications for grants are due November 12.

Brownfields assessment grants, funded at up to \$200,000 each over two years, provide funding for a grant recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to contaminated sites. An applicant may request a waiver

of the \$200,000 limit and obtain funding up to \$350,000 based on the anticipated level of contamination, size, or ownership status of the site. These grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum).

The revolving loan fund grants, each funded up to \$1 million over five years, provide resources for grant recipients to capitalize a revolving loan fund and to provide sub grants to carry out cleanup activities at Brownfield sites owned by the sub grant recipient. These grants require a 20 percent cost share, which may be in the form of a contribution of money, labor, material, or services from a non-federal source. If the cost share is in the form of contribution of labor, material, or other services, it must be incurred for an eligible and allowable cost under the grant and not for ineligible costs. An applicant may request a waiver of the 20 percent cost share requirement based on hardship. For more information on EPA's Brownfields Program visit: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

USDA solid waste management grants

These grants may be used to (1) evaluate current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources; (2) provide technical assistance and/or training to enhance operator skills in the operation and maintenance of active landfills; (3) provide technical assistance and/or training to help communities reduce the solid waste stream; and (4) provide technical assistance and/or training for operators of landfills which are closed or will be closed in the near future with the development and implementation of closure plans, future land use plans, safety and maintenance planning, and closure scheduling.

Applications will be accepted from October 1 through December 31 of each calendar year. For more information go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWMSG.htm>

California Bay-Delta Authority science grants

This program is seeking to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, please visit: <https://solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at 877/408-9310.

CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program

The CALFED Bay-Delta requests proposals for programs and projects to monitor and evaluate ecosystem restoration actions previously funded by the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program or by Central Valley Project Improvement Act programs. The proposal solicitation package can be downloaded from <http://calwater.ca.gov> and is due by 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, November 19, 2004. Complete proposals must be filed electronically on the Internet at <https://solicitation.calwater.ca.gov>. Proposals received after this date and time will not be accepted.

Information about other CALFED program proposal solicitations

To automatically receive more information about other CALFED Program Proposal Solicitations go to <http://calwater.ca.gov/ListServe/listsab-1.asp?Choice=1>. Contact Dan Ray of the California Bay-Delta Authority, Ecosystem Restoration Program at (916) 445-5243 if you need more information.

California endowment program

California endowment program gives grants to organizations and institutions that directly benefit the health and well-being of Californians, and those that work to provide and expand access to affordable, quality health care for California's underserved individuals and communities. The endowment offers two open application grant programs designed to fund ideas and approaches to health improvements generated at the community level.

CommunitiesFirst accepts applications year-round and is rooted in the understanding that communities are central to health improvements; and that inclusion, partnership and community ownership are critical to addressing issues successfully.

The Local Opportunities Fund provides grants of up to \$50,000 to organizations that are addressing important health issues on a local level. Applications are reviewed following deadlines in January, May and September. For more information concerning grant opportunities at the California Endowment please go to <http://www.calendow.org/opportunities/index.stm> or call (800) 449-4149.

Miscellaneous items

Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool: Tribal pilot

There are a number of efforts underway within EPA to promote more coordinated and integrated approaches to help K-12 schools efficiently address their environmental hazards. One of those efforts is the development of a school facility assessment tool (originally designed and used by the Los Angeles Unified School District). This tool will allow school districts to conduct self-audits to assess all of their school facilities for compliance with environmental regulations, as well as the status of environmental health risks inside and outside the facility.

We are in the process of recruiting interested states, tribes and school districts to potentially participate in the field testing of the Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool. Approximately, nine field test sites (pilots) will be selected with input from the regions and involved Headquarters programs. In light of the emerging Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (OECA) tribal schools strategy, we want to field test the tool with a tribe to get a feel for whether it translates to the tribal context and could serve as a good compliance assistance tool. We will be field-testing/piloting the tool with one tribe and aim to expand field testing and finalizing a

tribal school environments assessment tool (if deemed appropriate and useful) in FY05/06. If you have questions, need more information, and/or think you're your tribe might be interested in participating, please contact Lori Lewis, Region 9 EPA at Lewis.Lori@epa.gov or call her at (415) 947-4259 by COB November 12th

Community health air pollution information system (CHAPIS)

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has developed an internet-based mapping tool that allows a look at a map to view sources of air pollution. This system makes information regarding air pollution emissions available in ways that are more understandable and more visual. The air pollutant emission information contained in CHAPIS is for general information. Please consult your local air district for the most recent data available for specific facilities. The CARB should be contacted regarding mobile source emissions. For more information, visit:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/chapis1/chapis1.htm>

Postage stamp design

A fund-raiser competition for a design of a postage stamp to highlight renewable energy on tribal lands will be held by the United States Post Office. The chosen original artwork will be submitted with an application to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. If issued, the proceeds from this stamp will fund scholarships and grants to Native American students working toward development of renewable energy on tribal lands. This competition is open to all Native American students across the country. You may request information and an application form by emailing Kathryn.clegg@colorado.edu. Please type "Stamp Design" on the subject line and mail your entry to K. Clegg, CB 450 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309. All artwork must be in by December 5, 2004.

Web sites for tribal programs and other EPA programs

EPA Region 9

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/newslet.html

American Indian Environmental Office (EPA)

<http://www.epa.gov/indian>

Grant opportunities

<http://calwater.ca.gov/GrantOpportunities/GrantInformation.shtml>

Tribal compliance assistance

<http://cfpub1.epa.gov/clearinghouse/index.cfm?TopicID=C:10:450:CA:TRIBAL>

Enforcement-related

<http://cfpub1.epa.gov/clearinghouse/index.cfm?TopicID=C:10:450:EN:TRIBAL>

Office of Compliance (EPA)
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance>

National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse
<http://www.epa.gov/clearinghouse>

Pollution Prevention and Environmental Management
<http://www.michigan.gov/deq/>

Tribal Court Clearinghouse
<http://www.tribal-institute.org>

National Tribal Environmental Council
<http://www.ntec.org/>

Federal Indian Law Handbook
<http://www.thorpe.ou.edu/cohen.html>

National Tribal Justice Resource Center
<http://www.tribalresourcecenter.org/>

National Congress of American Indians
<http://www.ncai.org>

Center for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov>

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
<http://www.itcaonline.com/>

National Water Program Strategic Plan 2004-2008 and National Program Guidance for 2005
<http://www.epa.gov/water/waterplan/index.html>

National American Indian Housing Council
<http://naihc.net>

Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance
<http://12.46.245.173/cfda/cfda.html>

The following listserv will be used for distributing information on grants and/or funding opportunities, regulatory changes, and for gathering information that may be needed specifically for solid waste issues. If you have any questions or would like more information on this listserv, please contact Robin Powell (775) 574-0101, ext. 12.

Post message: tribal_solid_waste@yahoogroups.com

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Unsubscribe: tribal_solid_waste-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner: tribal_solid_waste-owner@yahoogroups.com

To submit articles to the Tribal Program Newsletter, contact:
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